

**§ 20.607 Rule 607. Revocation of a representative's authority to act.**

Subject to the provisions of § 20.1304 of this part, an appellant may revoke a representative's authority to act on his or her behalf at any time, irrespective of whether another representative is concurrently designated. Written notice of the revocation must be given to the agency of original jurisdiction or, if the appellate record has been certified to the Board for review, to the Board of Veterans' Appeals. The revocation is effective when notice of the revocation is received by the agency of original jurisdiction or the Board, as applicable. An appropriate designation of a new representative will automatically revoke any prior designation of representation. If an appellant has limited a designation of representation by an attorney-at-law to a specific claim under the provisions of Rule 603, paragraph (a) (§ 20.603(a) of this part), or has limited a designation of representation by an individual to a specific claim under the provisions of Rule 605, paragraph (c) (§ 20.605(c) of this part), such specific authority constitutes a revocation of an existing representative's authority to act only with respect to, and during the pendency of, that specific claim. Following the final determination of that claim, the existing representative's authority to act will be automatically restored in full, unless otherwise revoked.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 5901–5904)

**§ 20.608 Rule 608. Withdrawal of services by a representative.**

(a) *Withdrawal of services prior to certification of an appeal.* A representative may withdraw services as representative in an appeal at any time prior to certification of the appeal to the Board of Veterans' Appeals by the agency of original jurisdiction. The representative must give written notice of such withdrawal to the appellant and to the agency of original jurisdiction. The withdrawal is effective when notice of the withdrawal is received by the agency of original jurisdiction.

(b) *Withdrawal of services after certification of an appeal—(1) Applicability.* The restrictions on a representative's right to withdraw contained in this

paragraph apply only to those cases in which the representative has previously agreed to act as representative in an appeal. In addition to express agreement, orally or in writing, such agreement shall be presumed if the representative makes an appearance in the case by acting on an appellant's behalf before the Board in any way after the appellant has designated the representative as such as provided in §§ 20.602 through 20.605 of this part. The preceding sentence notwithstanding, an appearance in an appeal solely to notify the Board that a designation of representation has not been accepted will not be presumed to constitute such consent.

(2) *Procedures.* After the agency of original jurisdiction has certified an appeal to the Board of Veterans' Appeals, a representative may not withdraw services as representative in the appeal unless good cause is shown on motion. Good cause for such purposes is the extended illness or incapacitation of an agent admitted to practice before the Department of Veterans Affairs, an attorney-at-law, or other individual representative; failure of the appellant to cooperate with proper preparation and presentation of the appeal; or other factors which make the continuation of representation impossible, impractical, or unethical. Such motions must be in writing and must include the name of the veteran, the name of the claimant or appellant if other than the veteran (e.g., a veteran's survivor, a guardian, or a fiduciary appointed to receive VA benefits on an individual's behalf), the applicable Department of Veterans Affairs file number, and the reason why withdrawal should be permitted. Such motions should not contain information which would violate privileged communications or which would otherwise be unethical to reveal. Such motions must be filed at the following address: Office of the Senior Deputy Vice Chairman (012), Board of Veterans' Appeals, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420. The representative must mail a copy of the motion to the appellant, with a return receipt requested. The receipt, which must bear the signature of the appellant, must then be filed with the Board at the same address as proof